Chapter 78: The Sun God and the Rebellious Hero

SO DEPRES-SING...

UUUGH... DEPRES-SING...

FOUR WINS AND FOUR LOSSES... WE'RE IN SUCH A CRUCIAL POSITION...
...AND OUR NEXT FIGHTER'S A GUY LIKE *HIM*...?!

TOO MUCH STRESS CAN CAUSE YOU TO LOSE HAIR, YOU KNOW.

HWOH HWOH HWOH!

IT'S TRUE HE'S A HARD ONE TO GRASP, AND NOT AT ALL SERIOUS...

I MEAN, HE'S SUCH A NARCISSIST, AND A PRETTY-BOY...

...I JUST HATE HIM!

...STR-ONG.

...BUT HE IS...

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HM?

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THIS IS JUST PARA-DISE!

AH, MAN...

WHAT'S THIS...?

HM?

IT SEEMS SOMEONE IS HAVING FUN.

HWOH HWOH HWOH!

WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING...

...WHEN WE'RE IN SUCH DIRE STRAITS ?!

TH- THAT LITTLE ...!!!

IS THAT YOU THERE?!

OHH!!

IF IT ISN'T ARES...

...MY GODLY GOOD-FELLOW !!

TWELVE GODS OF OLYMPUS

APOLLO

(GREECE)

COVER UP COVER UP!!

COVER YOUR FRONT, YOU IDIOT!!

ACK!!

SO WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU COME TO SEE ME.

LET'S GET IN TOGETHER!

C'MON, THIS WAY, MY FRIEND!

OH, PLEA-SE.

YOU CAN BE HONEST.

YOU LIKE ME, DON'T YOU?

...NO FRIEND OF MINE!!

Y- Y- YOU'RE...

YOU ABSOLUTE MORON!

STOP CLINGING ON TO ME!!

OHO?

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SO...

...WHAT'S BROUGHT *YOU* HERE, GRAMPS?

WELL? FEELS GREAT, RIGHT?

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HAH HAH HAH!!

DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE STILL AT THAT.

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HUH?

YOU WILL BE GOING NEXT IN RAGNA-ROK.

OF OUR FOUR LOSSES, THREE OF THOSE...

...WERE POSEIDON, HERACLES, AND HADES.

WITH THE EIGHTH ROUND FINISHED, THE SCORE STANDS FOUR TO FOUR.

HUH...?

...UN-BELIEV-ABLE...

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS... SUCH A SHAME...

POSEI... JUSTICE-BOY...

AND BIG BRO HADDY...

THEY MUST HAVE LOOKED SO BEAUTIFUL AS THEY DIED...

THAT I WASN'T THERE TO SEE IT...

...IS SUCH A SHAME.

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WHA...

ﾏﾅ...

YOU DON'T FEEL AN OUNCE OF SORROW?!

SOR-ROW?

YOU JUST WANTED TO SEE THEM DIE...?!

!!

...GAVE THEIR SOULS TO FIGHT, DIDN'T THEY?

THEY ALL...

...THEN WHAT IS THERE TO BE SORROWFUL FOR?

IF SO...

...JUST SUP- REMELY BEAU- TIFUL?!

ISN'T THAT...

GOOD GRIEF.

PFT!

W...

WELL ...

ALRIGHT, LADIES...

...AND SHINE TO THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHT-EST?

WHO WANTS TO SEE ME FIGHT SO GOR-GEOUS-LY...

...

...

WE DO!

...I MUST HEED TO THESE BEAUTIFUL CHEERS!!

AS THE GOD OF THE SUN...

D'AC-CORD, MES' BEAU-TÉS.

AND SO I SHALL GO.

...COVER UP BEFORE YOU GO...

AT LEAST...

VALHALLA ARENA CORRIDORS

TAP...

TAP...

"A GOOD FIGHT"?

MAN-KIND'S 4-4 AGAINST THE GODS...

THEY'VE BEEN PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT, HAVEN'T THEY...?

BUT--

AND FOR THAT REASON...

IF THEY DO NOT WIN, ALL WILL COME TO *NAUGHT*.

THAT IS HOW RAGNAROK IS.

SUCH WORDS...

...ARE NOT EVEN WORTH THE SNOT OF A WORM.

TH... THIS PLACE IS...

!

...I'VE CHOSEN *THIS MAN* AS OUR NEXT FIGHTER...

"HUMAN HISTORY'S MIGHTIEST REBEL"!

YES...THE MAN WHO HAS BUCKED THE CALL OF THE GODS--THE *ORACLES*--AT EVERY TURN...

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REBEL?!

HIS-TORY'S MIGHTI-EST...

WHAT IS THIS PLACE, SISTER?

RIGHT THIS WAY, PLEASE.

AMONG THOSE PEO-PLES...

...THE MIGHTIEST AND MOST RENOWNED IN ALL HISTORY...

...THOU-SANDS OF PEOPLES...

...HAVE RISEN AND FALLEN, TIME AND AGAIN.

SINCE THE BIRTH OF MANKIND...

THE MEN OF...

...ARE THESE MEN...

ｱｼｭｳ...

"SPARTA".

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THAT IS HOW THE MEN OF SPARTA LIVE.

EVEN IN DEATH, THEY NEVER CEASE THEIR TRAINING.

HWOOOAH... WHAT'RE THEY ALL *DOING*...?

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ハッ

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING...

KING LEONIDAS.

KING LEONIDAS (ANCIENT GREECE)

THE REALLY FAMOUS ONE?!

...THE KING LEONI-DAS...?!

!!

H... HE'S...

Hm...

...IS YOU.

MANKIND'S REPRESENT-ATIVE FOR ROUND NINE OF RAGNAROK...

NAW, PASS.

...FLAT-OUT REFUUUUUUU USED!!

H-HE JUST...

IF I'M GONNA BE FIGHTING...

...I BETTER BE THE OPENER OR THE CLOSER.

DON'T MATTER WHO FIGHTS IN THE NINTH ROUND DOES IT?

WHAT'S HIS PROB-LEM...?

HE'S GOT WAY TOO BIG A HEAD.

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AND DON'T COME BACK 'TIL I AM.

HOW UNFOR-TUNATE...

IS THAT SO...?

"APOLLO", THAT IS.

...ONLY YOU COULD DEFEAT HIM.

AND HERE I THOUGHT THAT ACROSS ALL SEVEN MILLION YEARS OF HUMAN HISTORY...

HOLD IT.

LET US HEAD BACK, GOLL.

BUT MY APOLOGIES.

HUH ...?

WHEN YOU SAY "APOLLO"...

...YOU MEAN "APOLLO, GOD OF THE SUN"?

YES.

THE VERY SAME APOLLO.

...THEY WOR-SHIPED UP IN DELPHI.

THAT LITTLE *SHIT-HEAD*...

HE'S SURE GOT A ***REAL*** PUNCHABLE FACE, HUH...?

SOUNDS GOOD.

THERE'S THREE THINGS...

...THAT I LIKE IN THIS WORLD.

LOOK HERE, LITTLE GIRL...

...CAL-LED A GOD A "SHIT-HEAD"...

Y-YOU JUST...

AND THREE...

TWO, SOME WINE WITH A SIDE OF SPARTAN CHEESE.

ONE, A BOOK TO READ ON A HAMMOCK.

...RIGHT IN THEIR SMUG-ASS TEETH!

...PUNCHING SOME UPPITY FUCKING SHITHEAD GODS...

NOT JUST "SHITHEADS", BUT "FUCKING SHITHEADS"!!

I'LL TAKE THAT BASTARD OUT...

YOU'VE GOT A DEAL.

...OF SPARTA!

IN THE NAME...

SO FAR, BOTH SIDES HAVE WON FOUR MATCHES EACH...

RAGNAROK, ROUND NINE!

...WE'VE GOT A CARD THAT'S SURE TO PLEASE!!

...AND IN THIS CRUCIAL MATCH THAT WILL TELL THE TIDE OF THE REMAINING FIVE...

...KEEP YOUR EYES ON THIS ONE!!

GOD AND MAN ALIKE...

...FATE HAS BROUGHT GOD AND MAN TOGETHER THERE, LOCKED IN A BITTER CYCLE...

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS...

...IT ALL COMES TO A HEAD!!

...BUT AT THIS VERY MOM-ENT...

...IN HUMAN HISTORY LIVE?

WHERE DO THE MIGHTIEST "PEOPLE"...

...THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE ANSWER...

NO MATTER WHO YOU ASK...

SPARTA!

BUT WHAT WAS THEIR AIM?

TRIUMPH? GLORY?

...!!

THEY WERE BORN FOR BATTLE...

...AND DIED FOR BATTLE!

THESE MEN...

...DEVOTED THEIR WHOLE LIVES TO ENDLESS TRAINING!

NAY!!!

NAY!!

NAY!

...WHERE A MERE THREE HUNDRED OF THEM STOOD AGAINST AN ARMY OF A MILLION PERSIANS!

LEGENDS TELL OF THE BATTLE OF THERMO-PYLAE IN 480 B.C....

SO TO SPEAK...

THAT'S WRITTEN IN THE BLOOD OF EVERY SINGLE SPARTAN!!

NEVER GIVE UP, NEVER SURREN-DER!!

...OR BOW HIS HEAD TO ANY GOD...

AND THIS MAN WON'T BEND HIS KNEE...

...FROM THE MIGHTIEST PEOPLE...

THE MIGHTIEST KING...

NI!

O!

LE!

AA AA AAA AAS!

DAA AAA AAA AA

LEONIDAS

LEONIDAS
(ANCIENT GREECE)

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...ON THE GODS' SIDE...

ビク ビク

A-AND NOOOW!

FACING OFF AGAINST SPARTA'S MIGHTIEST KING, LEONIDAS...

LO

...IS HIM!!

HOW IS IT THAT THE GODS...

...ADORE HIM SO MUCH?

HOW DOES THIS GOD...

...GIVE OFF SUCH DAZZLING LIGHT?

...

FINALLY HIS TURN, HUH?

TH...THIS DAZZLING LIGHT...

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR HIM!!

...WHICH SLEW THE LEGENDARY SERPENT PYTHON?

IS IT BECAUSE OF HIS SILVER BOW AND ARROW...

...WHICH HE BROUGHT FORTH ON THE LYRE?

IS IT BECAUSE OF THE ENCHANTING MELODIES...

NAY!!

NAY!

NAY.

...OF HIS OVER-WHELMING STRENGTH AND BEAUTY!!

IT IS BE-CAUSE...

...WHO ILLUMINATES THE WHOLE HEAVENS, BY CALLING HIM...

BOTH GOD AND MAN HAVE HONORED THIS BEAUTIFUL GOD OF THE SUN...

"PHOEBUS"!

POL!

A!

OOOOO!

APOLLO

APOLLO
(GREECE)

APOLLOOOOOO!!

SQUEEEEEE!!

I love you!

Apollo!

Apollo!

Apollo

COME ON, LEONIDAA AAAAS!!

WOOO OOOO OOAH!!

HH

!!

FIGH--

--GGHT?!?!

ナナナ…

NO...

WAS THAT... A FALSE START ...?

WAIT A...

...

HE SIMPLY ATTACKED AT THE EXACT SAME TIME AS THE COMMAND TO BEGIN.

SIIGH...

HOW UN-SIGHTLY.

A COWARDLY, BRUTE-FORCE SURPRISE ATTACK...

...BECAUSE YOU CANNOT EVEN *STAY PUT.*

HOW VERY ANIMAL-ISTIC...

...AND HOW VERY LIKE YOU HUMANS.

YOU DARE TO SHOW *ME*...

...SUCH IRREVERENCE, INSOLENCE, DISCOURTESY, AND ARROGANCE...

...SHITTY LITTLE SUN-GOD.

SAME AS EVER, I SEE, YOU...

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"SAME AS EVER" ...?

...HAVE I MET YOU SOMEWHERE BEFORE?

YOU DON'T MEAN TO CALL ***ME*** THAT, DO YOU...?

AND, "SHITTY"? SUCH AN UNCOMELY WORD...

...YOU'RE COURTING DIVINE JUDG-MENT.

THOUGH IF YOU DO...

NOT THEN, AND NOT NOW...

...HAH. I CAN'T FRIGGIN' STAND YOU...

I...

LOOK HERE...

...SHIT-HEAD!

...HATE YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WHOLE WORLD...

DON'T GET IT WRONG, I'M NOT PICKING THIS BACK UP OR ATTENTION WHORING OR ANYTHING, I JUST LOST A BET ON WHO'D BE FIGHTING THIS ROUND. I MIGHT GO BACK AND TRANSLATE THE BONUS CHAPTERS THE ACTUAL GROUP DIDN'T EVEN TOUCH, THOUGH.

--DEMI

...THEN GET OUTTA MY POLIS AND TAKE YOUR SENSITIVE ASS BACK TO ATHENS!!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE SEEING A BABY WITH A MILD COUGH THROWN OFF A CLIFF...